

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
  
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
  
IN OPPOSITION TO L.D. 736**

**LD TITLE: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE REVIEW BOARD OF  
APPEALS TO REVIEW THE DENIAL OF HUNTING AND FISHING  
LICENSES**

**SPONSORED BY: Senator JACKSON of Aroostook**  
**Co-Sponsored by: Representative WOOD of Sabattus**  
**Senator DUTREMBLE of York**  
**Senator HASKELL of Cumberland**  
**Senator PATRICK of Oxford**  
**Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin**  
**Representative McCABE of Skowhegan**  
**Representative SHAW of Standish**

**DATE OF HEARING: April 25, 2013**

Good afternoon Senator Dutremble, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Andrea Erskine, Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking in opposition to **L.D. 736**.

This bill proposes to establish a review board of appeals, to review the actions of the license revocation appeals board currently established within the Department. The composition of the board is comprised of the Deputy Commissioner, a member of the Bureau of Warden Service, and the Director of the Bureau of Resource Management.

Except for mandatory revocations, when a licensee's privilege is revoked, the law affords that person the opportunity for an administrative hearing to present evidence to the commissioner as to why their privilege should be reinstated, or the time reduced. In addition to mandatory revocations the Department has established administrative guidelines (approved by the Attorney General) for non-mandatory revocations. In these instances the Department is always committed to assuring fairness and impartiality in decision making. If the decision to uphold the revocation is made, that person may file an appeal with the court. We do not see the need for a 2<sup>nd</sup> board to consider appeals.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.